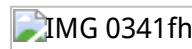


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English News ▼

04 OCT USM OPENS OPERATIONS ROOM TO MONITOR WORSENING HAZE SITUATION



PENANG, 4 October 2015 - In view of the worsening haze situation, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) has advised its students and the campus community not to hold any outdoor activities at all its campuses in Penang, Nibong Tebal, Bertam and Kubang Kerian, Kelantan.

"USM has opened an Operations Room in recent weeks to monitor the haze situation affecting Penang based at the USM Pusat Sejahtera here and requested that similar efforts to be immediately carried out at the Engineering Campus and Bertam Campus as well as at the Health Campus in Kelantan when the need arises," said the Vice-Chancellor Professor Dato' Dr. Omar Osman.

Omar said the university had also issued a haze management guideline (SOP) which could be accessed at www.pusatsejahtera.usm.my (<http://www.pusatsejahtera.usm.my>).

"According to the SOP, all outdoor activities involving USM students and staff must cease when the Air Pollution Index (API) reading reaches 130 while all academic activities including lectures would not be conducted if the level goes up to 200," he added.

The decision to postpone academic activities including lectures will be issued officially by the Vice-Chancellor while the USM Sports and Recreation Centre facilities will be closed to the campus community and the public if the API reaches 200.

Meanwhile, the Director of Pusat Sejahtera Dr. Normala Abdul Wahid said, the Pusat Sejahtera at the Main Campus and Engineering Campus will operate as usual to provide treatment to students while in the Bertam Campus it will provide 24-hour service.

"This is due to the API readings which keep increasing, and we would like to advise students and the campus community not to engage in any outdoor activities until the haze situation shows signs of improvement," said Normala.

USM community especially students are advised to check the current state of haze from time to time and comply with the SOP guidelines that are shown in the USM Pusat Sejahtera website.

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